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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Troops at Vidin

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1. The infantry barracks is on the northern edge of Vidin on the bank of the Danube. It consists of: a command building with offices and some quarters; two two-story quarters for enlisted; a guardhouse; a clothing magazine; a kitchen; a repair shop; a stable for 70 horses; a bake shop; a munitions depot; an old weapons depot; a "Danube tower." It can hold a complete regiment.

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2. It now holds a regiment of the 6th Rifle Division. The other regiments of the same division are a rifle regiment at Vraca and a rifle regiment at Ferdinand.

3. The Vidin regiment is probably the same one that was formerly known as 3 Pehotten Polk. It is divided into a staff of 65 men; a staff company of 55 men; a mortar company of 80 to 85 men; a communications company of 80 to 85 men; an AT company of 80 men. There are two battalions of 320 to 340 men each, each divided into three rifle companies. Two of the company commanders are Chief Lt. Volinoff and Chief Lt. Keloff.

4. The regiment received 380 to 400 recruits in October 1952, from the classes 1929 to 1931. Basic training was carried on until February 1953, each battalion having organized a special recruit company for the purpose. In February 1953 these companies were broken up and the men distributed. Target practice is held weekly. It is said that the regiment will shortly be enlarged by a third battalion.

5. Each company has 9 to 10 Soviet light machine guns, 5 to 10 machine pistols, and rifles which are mostly Czech. It has received neither heavy weapons nor hand grenades. The unit is not motorized, but has 55 to 65 horses.

6. There is also a border guard company in Vidin, but the Danube makes so good a barrier that it has little to do.

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